

*University of Scouting 2006*

# ***Hornaday Award Advisor Training***

*[Hornaday Advisor Training University of Scouting REV 2]*



*SHAC Conservation Committee*

# ***Hornaday Award Advisor***

## ***Brief History/Conservation and the Boy Scouts of America***

“Conservation and the Boy Scouts of America have been partners for a long time. Camping, hiking, and respect for the outdoors are a part of the Scouting heritage. Many of the requirements for advancement from Tenderfoot through Eagle Scout rank call for an increasing awareness and understanding of the natural sciences. Many former Scouts have become leaders in conserving our environment and protecting it from abuse. Right now Scouts are involved in learning about environmental problems and actively working to make a difference.”

### ***The Hornaday Awards— General Intent/Purpose***

“The fundamental purpose of the Hornaday Awards program is to encourage learning about natural resource conservation and the environment.”

# ***The Hornaday Awards— General Requirements for Key Awards***

## ***William T. Hornaday Unit Award***

A Hornaday unit certificate is awarded to a pack, troop, team, or crew when that unit plans and carries out at least one local environmental/conservation project. At least 60 percent of the registered unit members must participate. These units may be nominated, or they may apply to their BSA local council for recognition.

## ***William T. Hornaday Badge***

The Hornaday badge is awarded, upon approval of the local council, to a Boy Scout, Varsity Scout, or Venturer for outstanding service to conservation and environmental improvement.

1. Earn First Class rank (Boy Scouts/Varsity Scouts only).
2. Plan, lead, and carry out at least one project from one of the eight approved categories
3. Complete the merit badge requirements

Venturers must attach a statement from their Advisor stating that Ecology and Plants and Wildlife electives requirements for the Ranger Award (or Outdoor Bronze Award) have been satisfied.

# ***The Hornaday Awards— General Requirements for Key Awards***

## ***William T. Hornaday Bronze or Silver Medal***

These individual awards are granted by the National Council of the Boy Scouts of America to a Boy Scout, Varsity Scout, or Venturer for exceptional and distinguished service to conservation and environmental improvement.

1. Earn First Class rank (Boy Scouts/Varsity Scouts only).

For the bronze medal: Plan, lead, and carry out **three projects from three separate categories.**

For the silver medal: Plan, lead, and carry out **four projects from four separate categories.**

All projects are to be planned and carried out in a way that encourages others to understand and appreciate sound conservation and environmental practices. Exacting standards of project documentation must be met.

2. Boy Scouts and Varsity Scouts: Complete the merit badge requirements—one must be Environmental Science.

Venturers must attach a statement from their Advisor stating that Ecology and Plants and Wildlife electives requirements for the Ranger Award (or Outdoor Bronze Award) have been satisfied.

## ***Badges and/or Medals***

A scout can earn the badge, then move on to one of the medals.

## ***Coordination with the SHAC Conservation Award***

No merit badge/Ranger elective work required; all other Hornaday requirements in force.



## ***Adult Awards (Gold Badge, Gold Medal)***

By nomination only.

Gold Badge—three years of conservation-related service at the district/council level.

# ***Advancement/Merit Badges/ Ranger Electives Requirements***

Boy Scouts—First Class

+

Merit Badges—

Badge	<u>5</u> = <b>3 bold</b> + 2 other/elective
Bronze Medal	<u>6</u> = <b>4 bold</b> ( <i>1 must be ES</i> ) + 2 other/elective
Silver Medal	<u>9</u> = <b>6/all bold</b> + 3 other/elective

## BOLD

**Energy**  
**Environmental Science (ES)**  
**Fish and Wildlife Management**  
**Forestry**  
**Public Health**  
**Soil and Water Conservation**

## OTHER/ELECTIVE

Atomic Energy  
Bird Study  
Fishing  
Gardening  
Geology  
Insect Study  
Landscape Architecture  
Mammal Study  
Nature  
Oceanography  
Plant Science  
Pulp and Paper  
Reptile and Amphibian Study  
Weather

Venturers—Complete two Ranger Electives, namely,

Ecology  
Plants and Wildlife

## ***Advancement/Merit Badges/ Ranger Electives Requirements***

**Exercise:** There are several merit badges pictured on the next two pages.

**Place a “B” under those which might be used for a Hornaday Badge.**

**Now, assume that the Scout decides he wants to pursue a bronze medal—place an “M” next to those additional merit badges which would satisfy requirements.**

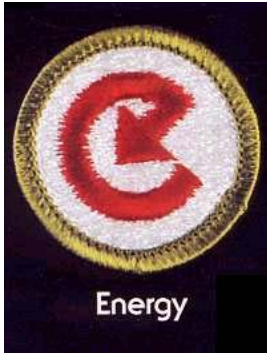
**Which merit badges pictured on the following two pages cannot be used for a Hornaday award? Cross them out.**

**What rank must a Scout have earned before he qualifies for a Badge or Medal?**

**What about Venturers—they don’t have merit badges, so what are they expected to do in this area?**



***Advancement/Merit Badges/Ranger Electives  
Requirements***



Energy



Environmental  
Science



Fish and Wildlife  
Management



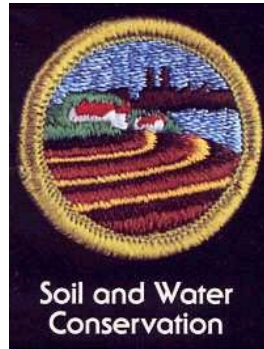
Plant Science



Forestry



Nature



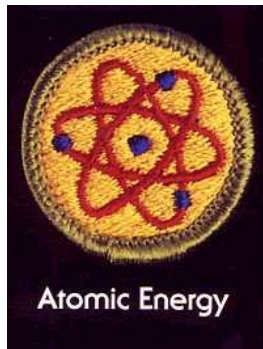
Soil and Water  
Conservation



Public Health



Bird Study



Atomic Energy

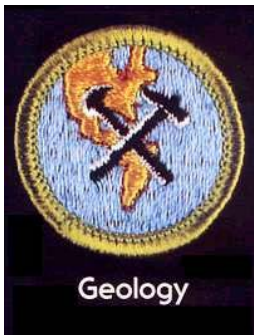


Gardening

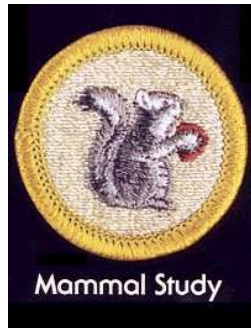


Landscape  
Architecture

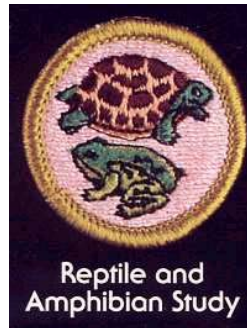
## *Advancement/Merit Badges/Ranger Electives Requirements*



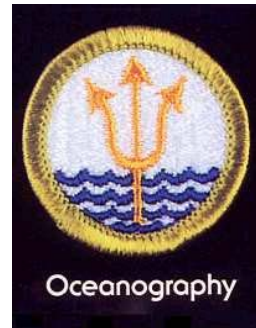
Geology



Mammal Study



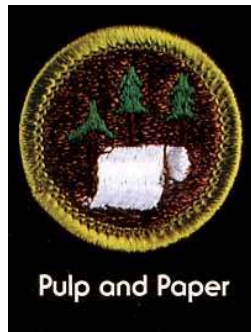
Reptile and  
Amphibian Study



Oceanography



Weather



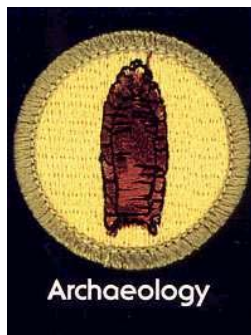
Pulp and Paper



Insect Study



Dog Care



Archaeology



Astronomy



Animal Science



Fishing

## ***Project Categories***

Energy Conservation  
Soil and Water Conservation  
Fish and Wildlife Management  
Forestry and Range Management  
Air and Water Pollution Control  
Resource Recovery (Recycling)  
Hazardous Material Disposal and Management  
Invasive Species Control

## ***Hornaday Project “look & feel”?***

### ***Think Eagle Project!***

The project must be “significant”—but no specific guidelines for “significant” are provided by the B.S.A.—however . . .

The project must

- > be based on sound scientific principles
- > address a conservation problem
- > contribute to conservation and environmental improvement  
on a long-term scale
- > educate the Scout and the broader community

Actual results count heavily.

Each project must stand on its own—i.e., specific work items at a site must not be counted for completion of more than one project. Any interrelationship of projects must be carefully explained in the documentation.

Multiple projects—for medals—must all be in different categories—three categories for the bronze medal, four categories for the silver medal.

## ***Report Elements/Format***

### REPORT HEADINGS:

Project ***Category***

Project ***Title***

Project ***Description***

***What*** was done?

***Who*** did it?

***When*** was it done?

***How*** was it done?

How did you come up with ***the idea?***

***Why*** did you undertake this project?

How was the project ***planned?***

How was the project ***designed?***

***How long*** did it take you to do the project?

***Where*** was the project carried out?

What was the ***environmental issue or problem?***

What was the ***resulting environmental improvement?***

What did you ***learn?***

How did the project ***involve and influence others?*** (What did they learn?)

How did you give ***leadership*** to the project?

What ***help*** did you receive from others—individuals and organizations?

## ***Report Elements/Format***

### SUPPORTING MATERIALS—"a must":

- Photographs
- Sketches
- Letters of appreciation/thanks
- News articles

### SIGNATURES (before submitting to SHAC CC):

- Applicant
- Hornaday and/or Conservation Adviser
- Unit Leader

***A quality report is***

*well-organized,*

*correct and complete, and*

*looks good—neatness counts*

*Single binder presentation.*

***The job's not done  
until the paperwork is complete.***

# ***Advisors/Responsibilities/Tasks***

## **Hornaday Advisor Responsibilities**

Encouragement of current and possible participants/applicants  
*In general, guiding the Scout/Venturer through the process of transforming a good idea into effective action that benefits the environment*

Discussing project options

Providing resources/conservation adviser contacts

***Overall application process coaching and facilitation—  
including the preparation of suitable  
documentation***

## **Conservation Advisor Responsibilities**

***Project-related coaching/facilitation  
(technical)—***

Preparation

Research

Consulting with others

Designing            }

Planning             } the project

Carrying out        }

Preparing the application/documentation

Thorough

Accurate

Detailed

Securing approval

## **Principal Advisor**

(Usually the Unit Leader, Conservation Adviser, or Hornaday Adviser)—***Overall coordination/supervision/coaching***

## ***Hornaday Project Ideas***

**Exercise: Evaluate these ideas—**

Build a “nature trail”

Build an enclosure for injured raptors to recuperate

Clean up a river or beach

Recycle Christmas trees

Kill Chinese Tallow trees

***What's the question?***

# ***Hornaday Project Examples***

## **Energy Conservation**

Work with adults in the chartered organization to conduct an energy audit of the home of a low-income family, preparatory to weatherizing it for energy conservation. Determine the materials needed and their costs. Help organize a workforce and, with the adults, undertake the needed improvements over several weekends. This effort should be part of the chartered organization's community outreach. Record long-term impact by analyzing utility savings.

## **Soil and Water Conservation**

Work with local park authorities to develop and maintain trails and paths, control streambank erosion (with water bars, ripraps, grass and shrub planting), conduct a wildlife census, and "adopt" a stream.

## **Fish and Wildlife Management**

With advice and assistance from state conservation department officials, introduce carp and catfish into algae-choked farm ponds to help reduce the algae load. Build nesting boxes and set them out for waterfowl. Plant hundreds of trees for windbreaks in at least 10 fields for wildlife habitat and to help control soil erosion. Plant native grasses for the benefit of quail and prairie chickens. Using a portable puppet theater, make presentations on fish and wildlife conservation to young children.

## **Forestry and Range Management**

Work with a range specialist to collect, analyze, plant, and maintain trees and native grasses suitable to the local environment to control erosion and provide wildlife habitats. Record short-term and long-term impacts.

# ***Hornaday Project Examples***

## **Air and Water Pollution Control**

Work on a legislator's staff to draft legislation and encourage enactment of state laws that require the planting of trees along all state highway rights-of-way to assist in reducing motor-vehicle air pollution, as well as filtering silt and many toxic substances.

## **Resource Recovery (Recycling)**

Design a survey of fellow students to discover recycling and pollution-prevention opportunities in the school. This could include activities such as recycling high-grade paper, reusing some paper products in the classroom, making use of disposable materials from the school cafeteria, and collecting glass and recyclable metal containers. Present the findings of the survey to school administrators and the school board. Achieve, as a result, the launch of an innovative school recycling program that delivers considerable dollar savings to the system with strong student, teacher, and school administrator support.

## **Hazardous Material Disposal and Management**

Working with local environmental officials, design and organize a program in which special plastic bags are distributed by Scouts to homeowners. The homeowners are asked to bag and deposit their used household batteries at special locations operated by city hazardous waste officials for appropriate disposal. Scouts design the informational brochure and run the public-information campaign to explain the environmental problems created by household batteries. The program reduces serious discharge of pollutants by the local waste incinerator.

## ***Hornaday Project Examples***

### **Invasive Species Control**

Working with a land managing agency or organization, help control or eliminate exotic plant or animal species that pose a threat to native species. Educate others to recognize invasive species and to conserve and protect our native plant and animal heritage.

### **Other Ideas**

Other good ideas for projects may be found in the publications and pamphlets of groups such as the National Audubon Society, the Izaak Walton League, the National Wildlife Federation, or governmental agencies including the Environmental Protection Agency, U.S. Forest Service, Army Corps of Engineers, Bureau of Land Management, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Fish and Wildlife Service, National Park Service, state natural resource conservation agencies, and your state cooperative extension service. The best way to identify a project is to discuss the options with a Hornaday adviser.

## ***BSA Letters of Understanding***

**Eagle Service Projects** may be used to satisfy project requirements for a Hornaday award, "provided that

1. The project meets the criteria in the Hornaday awards application, and
2. The write-up and documentation for the project follows the format for the Hornaday Award."  
(April 11, 1996)

"The Hornaday Committee purposefully does not specify **requirements for projects** because they like to see evidence of initiative, innovation, and giving leadership to inspire others. The project . . . does need to be meaningful and constitute a substantial contribution to conservation."  
(November 23<sup>rd</sup>, 1998)

# ***BSA Letters of Understanding***

## **Venturing and Boy Scouts**

What if, for example, a Boy Scout “ages out,” but transitions to Venturing. Can he continue earning the Hornaday Award? If so, does he also transition to the Venturing requirements—that is, will he now be responsible for completing the Ranger electives (Ecology and Plants & Wildlife) and no longer be able to use the merit badge work he may already have done during his Boy Scout career?

“If a Scout is First Class rank or higher when he enters Venturing, he may use the merit badge requirements for the Hornaday award” (October 31, 2003).

## **The Conservation Advisor**

“A conservation adviser for Hornaday projects can be a natural resources professional, but it is not limited to that. A college professor, or high school science teacher, or even a layperson who has a depth of knowledge about conservation and stewardship of natural resources could also serve as a Hornaday adviser . . .” (October 31, 2003)

## *How would you deal with the following?*

**1-Andy** is a Boy Scout in Troop 5006. He is 14 years old and a Star Scout. He has earned the following merit badges:

*Atomic Energy*  
*Bird Study*  
*Citizenship in the Community*  
*Energy*  
*Forestry*  
*Fly Fishing*  
*Life Saving*  
*Mammal Study*  
*Personal Fitness*  
*Public Health*  
*Pulp and Paper*  
*Swimming*

Andy would like to earn a Hornaday Bronze medal.

When he comes to see his advisor—you—what questions would you ask? What advice would you give?

**2-Andrea** is a Venturer in Crew 5006. She is 16 years old and working toward both the Venturing Silver Award and the Ranger Award. She has completed five core requirements for Ranger, and two Ranger electives—First Aid and Ecology.

Andrea would like to earn a Hornaday Badge.

She has recently completed a conservation-related service project for the Ranger Award (core requirement). She worked with her crew and the staff at a Texas state park to eradicate Chinese Tallow wood trees.

When she comes to see her advisor—you— what questions would you ask? What advice would you give?

## ***Next Steps***

Generating interest/spreading the word—how?

Working as a Hornaday Adviser?

Working with the SHAC Conservation Committee?